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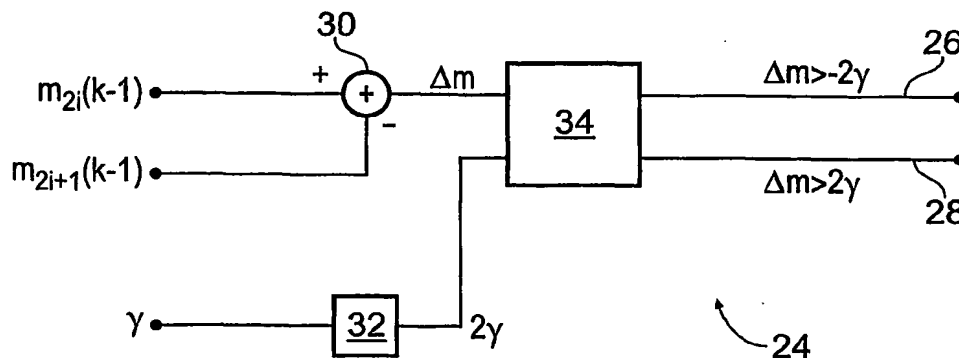
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(54) Title: ACS APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR VITERBI DECODER



(57) Abstract: The circuit (10) performs a butterfly calculation for a Viterbi trellis by using two path metrics and a branch metric to generate two new path metrics. The new metrics are produced by adders (12) and (14) whose inputs are controlled by selectors (16-22). The outputs of the selectors (16-22) are controlled by selection control unit (24) which considers the difference between the given path metrics relative to the double of the branch metric, which represents a branch metric difference.

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